

INTELLIGENCE OF THE MAIL

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1, 1848.
The Preparations for California—The Orders of the
War Department—Executive Clemency—Par-
dons—The Rough and Ready Club—The Per-

A telegraphic despatch has been sent to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, to remove the troops there (the second regiment of infantry, I believe) to New York. They will probably be transported by way of the lakes. Orders have been issued to

regadier General Riley, the officer in command, to start about the middle of October for California. The steamers Massachusetts and Edith will carry upwards of four hundred of the regiment; other vessels are not yet provided. Some of the officers will take their families with them to that distant region, which they would not be able

We have heard, within the present week, of twenty or thirty young men in this city and herabouts, who are making preparations to emigrate to California. Some of them will engage in business there, being provided with capital; the others

Since the President's return from the Bedford and Bath Springs on Tuesday, two important acts have been performed by him, viz: the transmission of directions to law officers of the government in New Orleans, St. Louis, and elsewhere, to crush any

occupant measures which they may discover for the invasion of the territory of Mexico by the buffalo hunters;" and, secondly, the pardon to-day of Bryan Fraile, lately convicted and sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary, for killing, with a brick bat, an orphan boy, (who among others, had trespassed on the premises of

Mr. C. L. Colman, and got into a dispute and warfare with Fraile, the guardian of the premises, on Sabbath afternoon.) His Excellency has been exceedingly forgiving within the last twenty months, having pardoned, in addition to the person just mentioned, five others: Krause, for assaulting and intending to kill Thrutt, in Georgetown; Bar-

ard for similar doings towards James Hall; Hamilton and Williams for larceny, and H. H. Smith for forgery. This individual was occupied for a few months in teaching the convicts sacred music, having been a leader of a choir in a church. In all these cases the President has acted on the advice or recommendation of the judge district.

...recognition of the judge, district attorney, or those who served as jurors, and other respectable citizens. Thus were these persons bereft of a residence in the strict penitentiary; but there was no attempt to procure a pardon for the black fellow who was sentenced to six weeks' confinement for "borrowing" or stealing a quantity of

alleged value of one dollar! In these enlightened days, there should be established some standard by which to measure the enormity of offences. The "Rough and Ready Club" held a meeting last night at their rendezvous, the "little band-box," fitted up as the Olympic Theatre, by Kilisey, near Blackwell's hotel. We had, for the

...and Blackwell's note: "We had, for the first time, a comfortable seat in the parquette, and enjoyed the performances gratuitously. Mr. Brady, member of Congress for Pennsylvania, was upon the stage, speaking a good word for old Zach., and about the brilliant political prospects of the young party. He thought, however, that victory could not come without determined resistance."

and not that, without a determined and concentrated effort, as they had to contend against a well disciplined, and supported by the patronage of the federal government. Mr. Lincoln, another member, from Illinois, addressed the audience from a table near a side wing, and, in the course of his remarks, said, without any qualification whatever, that the administration was

tion have it, that the administration sent orders to long John Wentworth's district, previous the late election in that State, to have him deputed, even though a whig should be returned to congress in his place. If this be not so, there could be an official contradiction of the statement. With all the characteristic mimicry of a genuine Snooker, Mr. Lincoln, whilst ex-

name Socky, Mr. Lincoln related several anecdotes, in ridicule of the efforts, as he said, of Wm. Cass to occupy two positions at once. There was in the Western country a man with a hare-lip, and on several occasions he took advantage of the defect of speech which this malformation produced.

At an instance, the man was at a cock fight, bet a quarter on the high comb cock, saying himself, as the battle progressed, "Quarter on the high comb cock," "quarter on the high comb cock," etc. Mr. Lincoln spoke in an assumed tone, in imitation of the hair-lip sportsman, and bent his long body, and made earnest gestures, though the gathered fictionists were not there.

though the hindered fighters were actually before him, and he appeared to be excited to the highest point of enthusiasm. Anon, the low comb cock began to get the advantage, and the better commenced changing the tune: "Quarter on the v comb cock," "Quarter on the low comb cock," etc. After the high comb cock had been "in death bed low" the even with it.

death and low, the man with the hair-lip, and, with joy, "I've won the quarter." "Won the quarter!" exclaimed the antagonist; "you're liar; you bet on the high comb cock!" "You're another liar; I bet on the low comb all time, from the jump." When the laughter, in the measure, subsided, Mr. Lincoln said that he was with General Grant.

the way with General Cass; he was just as
sistent from the jump! He read the recently
lished letter of this gentleman to R. S. Wilson,
which this passage occurs—"The Wilmot pro-
will not pass the Senate. It would be death
war—death to all hopes of getting an acre
territory—death to the administration, and
to the democratic, central, and

to the democratic party. In this, Mr. Tolson remarked, would be seen the solicitude of writer "to keep together a rotten party to elect a rotten President." As to pay, General Tolson had received from the public treasury two hundred and twenty thousand dollars. General Tolson had received ninety thousand.

they entered public life about forty years ago, the services of the latter were of infinitely more value than those of the former. Look at the result: Cass's was dotted all over with extravaganzas, and Taylor's had not a single one! Mr. Polk argued that Mr. Swartwout stood before the community with purer hands than Gen. Cass; consequently, he was elected.

without borrowed the money, thinking that could return it at some future time without the being discovered, while Cass systematically himself to work to draw money from the public without the plea of extra services rendered, which, unsubstantial as it was, in the course years matured into a "fixed fact."

the President of the club, Richard Wallace, brother of one of the editors of the *True Sun*, made a brief and earnest appeal for contributions of money to aid the cause; and as we left the theatre, crowds were flocking up to the book to add their names as contributors.

WASHINGTON, August 31, 1848.

e sometimes has the potency of a statutory provi-
; and unless it be appealed from to a higher court
reversed, it is in all time to come, quoted as a pre-
sent, and respected like the Scriptures. Before the
final court of this county, which lately closed its
s, John Bell, a free negro, was convicted of stealing
hies, birds, and swine, whereas, the charge was

ning birds and carrier pigeons—the charge was of larceny. When the jury rendered their verdict motion was made by the counsel of the defendant, Ratcliffe, Esq., in arrest of judgement, on the ground that property of that character is not a subject of larceny. The point was fully argued. The court sustained the motion, as the birds were things of mere note and whim, and of no intrinsic worth. Judge

ford, remarked that if a person were in-
ded for stealing a bear or a squirrel, he should con-
sider it a case of larceny, as the animals were good to
eat and of actual value. Judge Mason, formerly of
court, had made a decision that a dog was not
subject of larceny. Acting upon this, we would
ask if the sausage-makers from abroad would help
uselves to ten or twelve hundred of the dogs which

our adventures and have no ostensible owners; but for the birds, we will instantly make laws ourselves, so that thieves be discovered in the act of larceny, notwithstanding the decision of the court. If all things taste and whim," should be taken from us, we should, indeed, be comfortless—for of such is the major part of our existence made up. The idea of a thief putting a cage, wherever it may hang, and carrying

Yesterday, a boat race took place on the Potomac river, between the "Skimmer of the Seas," and the "General Jackson." It is not often that we have such contests, and, therefore, the sport was interesting.

former was built in New York, and won a stake of
ousand dollars for her owner—out-selling a brag-
on the Hudson. Major John P. Heiss, of the
hington Union, became the purchaser. The Jack-
was built in this city by Mr. John Easby, and is
ed by Mr. J. Towles, of the revenue service, in this
berhood. The "Jackson" skimmed the "Skimmer"
eds of twenty yards from the Potomac bridge to

Washington, a distance of fifteen miles, with free
the windward about two miles and a half. There
no money at issue; the contest was merely one for
Knox Walker, the Private Secretary of the Presi-
t, has left the city for Virginia. In the interim,
they are discharged by Major H. C.

duties of his station are discharged by Major S. O. Williams, the naval storekeeper, a gentleman of talent and integrity.

A young man named McVey, from Pennsylvania, who is crunched in the windows of his upper story, has a edifying our citizens by street lectures on matters and things in general, and General Taylor in particular. He takes his stand high up on a pump, and

spouts for three or four hours. He calls himself "Wood-sawyer," and does saw wood for a livelihood. He is a man of education, and of respectable talents as an orator, and studied both for the bar and the pulpit. He edited a paper before he resorted to the profession of the horse and saw.